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For further information about this booklet contact Charles Hobbs, editor, News Division, Office of Public Affairs, Room 406-A, U.S Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250 or call (202) 720-4026.

News Releases-

Release No. 0825.93

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Dana Hallman-Bama (202) 720-2032

ALTERED VIRUS COULD LEAD TO VACCINE FOR SWINE PSEUDORABIES

WASHINGTON, Sept. 27--A U.S. Department of Agriculture researcher has genetically altered and significantly weakened the virus that causes pseudorabies in pigs, moving closer to a new vaccine against this disease that costs U.S. pork producers about \$60 million annually.

Andrew K. Cheung, a microbiologist with USDA's Agricultural Research Service, developed the genetically-tailored pseudorabies virus. He deleted the genes that enhance the virus' growth and its ability to go into a dormant state and be reactivated at a later time.

In pig trials at the National Animal Disease Center in Ames, Iowa, the recombinant virus did not reactivate after being injected into animals. "The altered virus also protected young pigs from pseudorabies virus infection, presumably by stimulating the immune system to fend off the virus," said Cheung.

In contrast, all of the currently available vaccine strains tested establish a dormant state and reactivate later, the scientist said.

"If the new weakened virus is further developed into a vaccine, it could contribute substantially to the goal of eradication of pseudorabies by the year 2000," said Cheung. A program to eradicate the disease is now underway in this country.

Any commercial vaccine containing the recombinant virus would require federal regulatory approval for use.

Pseudorabies is fatal to young pigs and causes reproductive failure in pregnant sows. Humans are not susceptible to the pseudorabies virus. Several states, including Iowa, the nation's leading hog producer, have regulations prohibiting the movement of pigs infected with the pseudorabies virus.

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NOTE TO EDITORS: For more information, contact Andrew K. Cheung, National Animal Disease Center, Agricultural Research Service, USDA, Ames, Ia. 50010. Telephone: (515) 239-8324.

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Release No. 0826.93

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USDA PROPOSES TO DECLARE BELGIUM FREE OF TWO DESTRUCTIVE LIVESTOCK DISEASES

WASHINGTON, Sept. 27 -- The U.S. Department of Agriculture proposed today to declare Belgium free of foot-and-mouth disease and rinderpest, two communicable livestock diseases.

This proposal would allow fresh, chilled and frozen meats and dairy products from ruminant animals to be imported into the United States from Belgium under restrictions. However, because there is limited U.S. demand to import these products from Belgium, the proposal is not expected to have a major impact on current trade patterns.

"We are proposing to accept the Belgian application for free status based on the documentation Belgian officials have provided and on our on-site evaluation of their animal health programs," said Billy G. Johnson, deputy administrator of veterinary services in USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

APHIS will consider declaring a country free of FMD and rinderpest if no cases of the diseases are reported or no animals are vaccinated for the disease for at least one year. Belgium has not had a case of rinderpest, a viral disease of cattle and bison, since 1920. Vaccinations for FMD, a highly infectious disease of cattle and other clovenhoofed animals, ended in 1991. The last FMD outbreak was in 1976.

APHIS' National Center for Import and Export reviewed the application and documentation supplied by the Belgian government. A team of APHIS officials also traveled to Belgium to evaluate the capability of the country's veterinary services, laboratory and diagnostic procedures, vaccination practices and enforcement of animal health regulations. This review confirmed that Belgium has eradicated FMD.

This proposal was published in the Sept. 13 Federal Register. To comment, send an original and three copies of written comments on or before Oct. 13 to Chief, Regulatory Analysis and Development, PPD, APHIS, USDA, Room 804 Federal Building, 6505 Belcrest Road, Hyattsville, Md. 20782. Comments once received may be reviewed at USDA, Room 1141, South Building, 14th and Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C., between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays. Persons wishing access to the reading room are encouraged to call (202) 690-2817 to facilitate entry.



Release No. 0827.93

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USDA ADDING TO MEDFLY QUARANTINE AREA IN CALIFORNIA

WASHINGTON, Sept. 27 -- The U.S. Department of Agriculture has quarantined new areas in three California counties following recent Mediterranean fruit fly finds, a USDA official said today.

The USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service added the Rosemead area of Los Angeles County, the Westminster area of Orange County, and the Ontario area of San Bernardino County to the quarantine.

"These agricultural quarantines are designed to stop the spread of the Mediterranean fruit fly through fruit and vegetable shipments," said B. Glen Lee, deputy administrator for APHIS' plant protection and quarantine. "The quarantine prohibits the interstate movement of certain fruits and vegetables out of infested areas unless they have been certified by APHIS."

The Mediterranean fruit fly is one of the world's most destructive pests of more than 200 kinds of fruits and vegetables. Heavy infestations can cause complete loss of crops. Losses of 25 to 50 percent are not uncommon.

In cooperation with the California Department of Food and Agriculture, APHIS will continue regulating the area until the pest is eradicated, Lee said.

Other areas in Los Angeles County already under quarantine include Grenada Hills, Hancock Park, Duarte, Griffith Park, Inglewood, Pasadena and Covina. The Artesia, Pico-Rivera and Walnut Park areas of Los Angeles and Orange counties also are quarantined, and a portion of Santa Clara County remains under quarantine.

The interim rule, which became effective Sept. 15, was published in the Sept. 22 Federal Register. Comments will be accepted if they are received on or before Oct. 22. An original and three copies of written comments referring to docket number 91-155-7 should be sent to Chief, Regulatory Analysis and Development, PPD, APHIS, USDA, Room 804 Federal Building, 6505 Belcrest Road, Hyattsville, Md. 20782.

Comments received may be reviewed at USDA, Room 1141-S, 14th Street and Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C., between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday except holidays.



Release No. 0829.93
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JENSEN NAMED DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR MARKETING, INSPECTION

WASHINGTON, Sept. 28 -- Secretary of Agriculture Mike Espy today named Patricia A. Jensen as deputy assistant secretary for marketing and inspection services of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

"Pat Jensen is a great addition to Team USDA," Espy said. "Her keen legal mind and extensive experience with agricultural issues will make her invaluable as we tackle the difficult questions regarding food safety and quality and agricultural marketing and trade."

Jensen comes to USDA from Farmers Legal Action Group Inc.--a nonprofit law firm which provides legal services to farmers, farm advocates and farm organizations--where she was executive director. She has also served as Deputy Commissioner of Agriculture for Minnesota, executive director of the Minnesota Legislative Water Commission and as director of government relations for the Pillsbury Co.

Jensen was instrumental in drafting the agriculture sections of the 1989 Minnesota Groundwater Act and establishing a pilot "WIC Farmers Market" in Minnesota where recipients of USDA's supplemental food assistance program could receive fresh fruits and vegetables.

As deputy assistant secretary, Jensen will work with Assistant Secretary Eugene Branstool in managing USDA's Agricultural Cooperative Service, Agricultural Marketing Service, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Federal Grain Inspection Service, Food Safety Inspection Service and Packers and Stockyards Administration.

Jensen is a member of the American Agriculture Law Association and the Minnesota Bar Association. She has served on the University of Minnesota Advisory Board for the School of Agriculture and has practiced law in rural Minnesota. She holds a B.A. from the College of St. Catherine in St. Paul and a J.D. from William Mitchell College of Law, also in St. Paul.



Release No. 0830.93
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USDA ANIMAL DAMAGE CONTROL ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO MEET

WASHINGTON, Sept. 28--A national group of citizen advisors will meet Nov. 16-17 in Falls Church, Va., to discuss the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal Damage Control program.

Sessions will be in the Ramada Hotel, 7801 Leesburg Pike, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on both days.

The ADC program is administered by USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service. The program's goal is to minimize wildlife threats to agriculture and threatened and endangered species.

ADC deputy administrator Bobby Acord said recommendations made by the committee will continue to guide the future direction of the program.

"Wildlife is a valuable resource, and it is vital that we receive input from the public about our efforts to deal with damage caused by wild animals," Acord said. "Our goal is to use this open meeting to evaluate our policies, program issues and research activities."

Topics to be discussed include: APHIS' evaluation of ADC; specific environmental analysis requirements; and the future of ADC.

The meeting will be open to the public, but time constraints will not allow public participation in committee discussions. However, the public may submit written statements regarding agenda topics at the meeting or by sending them to William Clay, ADC, APHIS, USDA, Room 820 Federal Building, Hyattsville, Md. 20782. Comments should refer to docket number 93-109-1.

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Release No. 0831.93

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SOUTH DAKOTA COMPANY PAYS PENALTY TO SETTLE USDA CHARGES

WASHINGTON, Sept. 28--Colman Farmers Cooperative, Inc., of Chester, South Dakota, has agreed to pay a \$3,000 civil penalty to settle a complaint filed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Federal Grain Inspection Service. The complaint alleged that the company caused issuance of false and incorrect official grain inspection certificates on eight railcars.

David R. Gallart, FGIS acting administrator, said the firm was charged with loading inferior grain into hopper cars so that the grain would not be detected by normal sampling techniques. The actions, he said, were in direct violation of proper procedures and resulted in the issuance of false and incorrect official grain inspection certificates.

Colman Farmers Cooperative agreed to pay the \$3,000 penalty, but neither admitted nor denied the charge.

The complaint filed against Colman was the result of an investigation conducted by FGIS under authority of the U.S. Grain Standards Act, which provides for the establishment of U.S. grain standards, and for an official inspection and weighing system for grain shipped in domestic and foreign commerce.

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Release No. 0833.93

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USDA MAKES ALGERIA ELIGIBLE FOR MORE MILK POWDER UNDER DEIP

WASHINGTON, Sept. 28 -- Under Secretary of Agriculture Eugene Moos today announced that Algeria is eligible for an additional 20,000 metric tons of milk powder under the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Dairy Export Incentive Program.

Sales of milk powder will be made through normal commercial channels at competitive world prices. Sales will be facilitated through the payment of bonuses of USDA's Commodity Credit Corporation.

This milk powder allocation will be valid until December 31, as provided in the invitation for offers. Details of the program will be issued in the near future.

For more information call Randy Baxter, (202) 720-5540, or Larry McElvain, (202) 720-6211.

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Release No. 0834.93

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USDA RELEASES COST OF FOOD AT HOME FOR AUGUST

WASHINGTON, Sept. 28--Here is the U.S. Department of Agriculture's monthly update of the weekly cost of food at home for August 1993:

COST OF FOOD AT HOME FOR A WEEK IN AUGUST 1993

	----- Food plans -----			
	Thrifty	Low-cost	Moderate-cost	Liberal
(in dollars)				
<hr/>				
Families:				
Family of 2				
(20-50 years)	50.60	63.70	78.40	97.20
Family of 2				
(51 years and over)	47.90	61.20	75.10	89.90
Family of 4 with				
preschool children	73.80	91.90	112.10	137.40
Family of 4 with elementary				
schoolchildren	84.60	108.00	134.80	162.00
<hr/>				
Individuals in				
four-person families:				
Children:				
1-2 years	13.40	16.30	19.00	22.90
3-5 years	14.40	17.70	21.80	26.10
6-8 years	17.60	23.40	29.30	34.10
9-11 years	21.00	26.70	34.20	39.50
Males:				
12-14 years	21.70	30.20	37.60	44.20
15-19 years	22.60	31.20	38.70	44.90
20-50 years	24.20	30.90	38.50	46.50
51 and over	21.90	29.30	36.00	43.10
Females:				
12-19 years	22.00	26.10	31.60	38.20
20-50 years	21.80	27.00	32.80	41.90
51 and over	21.60	26.30	32.30	38.60
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USDA's Human Nutrition Information Service computes the cost of food at home for four food plans -- thrifty, low-cost, moderate-cost, and liberal.

Janice Lilja, HNIS acting administrator, said the plans consist of foods that provide nutritious meals and snacks for a week.

In computing the costs, USDA assumes all food is bought at the store and prepared at home. Costs do not include alcoholic beverages, pet food, soap, cigarettes, paper goods and other nonfood items bought at the store.

"USDA costs are only guides to spending," Lilja said. "Families may spend more or less, depending on such factors as where they buy their food, how carefully they plan and buy, whether some food is produced at home, what foods the family likes, and how much food is prepared at home."

"Most families will find the moderate-cost or low-cost plan suitable," she said. "The thrifty plan, which USDA uses to set the coupon allotment in the food stamp program, is for families who have tighter budgets.

Families with unlimited resources might use the liberal plan."

To use the chart to estimate your family's food costs:

-- For members eating all meals at home -- or carried from home -- use the amounts shown in the chart.

-- For members eating some meals out, deduct 5 percent for each meal eaten away from home from the amount shown for the appropriate family member. Thus, for a person eating lunch out 5 days a week, subtract 25 percent, or one-fourth the cost shown.

-- For guests, add 5 percent of the amount shown for the proper age group for each meal.

Costs in the second part of the chart pertain to individuals in four-person families. If your family has more or less than four, total the "individual" figures and make these adjustments (note: larger families tend to buy and use food more economically than smaller ones):

-- For a one-person family, add 20 percent.

-- For a two-person family, add 10 percent.

-- For a three-person family, add 5 percent.

-- For a five- or six-person family, subtract 5 percent.

-- For a family of seven or more, subtract 10 percent.

Details of the four family food plans are available from the Nutrition Education Division, Human Nutrition Information Service, USDA, Federal Building, Hyattsville, Md. 20782.



Release No. 0835.93

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Wayne Baggett (202) 720-2065

USDA ACCEPTS ONE MILLION MORE ACRES IN THE CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM

WASHINGTON, Sept. 30--The U.S. Department of Agriculture has accepted an additional 1,027,444 acres of highly erodible and other environmentally sensitive cropland into the Conservation Reserve Program, Secretary of Agriculture Mike Espy announced today.

"After 12 signup periods, we now have enrolled 36,423,395 acres into the program," Espy said. "The CRP continues to provide substantial reduction in government outlays for commodity programs while providing major environmental benefits." Espy said more than 23.2 million acres of program crop acreage bases have been retired since the inception of the program, resulting in a significant reduction in deficiency payments which otherwise would have been made to producers with respect to those acres.

"Permanent cover planted on CRP land substantially reduces the amount of nutrients, pesticides and runoff into rivers and streams," Espy said. "Soil erosion is reduced by 700 million tons annually and there is noticeable improvement in water quality and reduction of downstream flooding."

CRP has also resulted in improvements in wildlife cover and habitat. Recent studies have shown dramatic increases in pheasant and waterfowl population on land enrolled in the CRP in the northern Great Plains. An additional 1.7 billion trees have been planted on over 2.4 million acres of trees on CRP acreage.

The following table provides additional 12th signup period information by State.

	12TH SIGNUP NUMBER OF CONTRACTS	12TH SIGNUP ACRES CONTRACTED	1ST - 12TH NUMBER OF CONTRACTS	1ST - 12TH ACRES CONTRACTED
TOTAL	18,482	1,027,444	375,202	36,423,395
ALABAMA	451	22,573	10,113	573,190
ALASKA	0	0	40	25,348
ARKANSAS	222	14,046	3,418	260,006
CALIFORNIA	3	377	511	187,499
COLORADO	57	9,636	6,207	1,978,390
CONNECTICUT	0	0	1	10
DELAWARE	0	0	30	995
FLORIDA	133	5,538	2,497	134,860
GEORGIA	411	17,431	14,718	706,459
HAWAII	0	0	1	85
IDAHO	213	30,926	3,907	877,059
ILLINOIS	2,183	77,438	19,685	811,926
INDIANA	1,092	42,451	11,539	462,649
IOWA	2,177	116,963	35,666	2,224,818
KANSAS	484	26,397	31,020	2,937,863
KENTUCKY	355	17,098	8,102	451,317
LOUISIANA	73	4,358	1,785	146,571
MAINE	7	273	941	38,490
MARYLAND	43	950	707	20,392
MASSACHUSETTS	0	0	5	32
MICHIGAN	1,864	76,934	8,039	332,853
MINNESOTA	669	29,565	27,222	1,928,932
MISSISSIPPI	647	41,755	13,567	841,826
MISSOURI	1,524	101,563	22,804	1,726,835
MONTANA	181	39,276	7,925	2,854,307
NEBRASKA	456	29,672	14,448	1,425,407
NEVADA	0	0	10	3,123

	12TH SIGNUP NUMBER OF CONTRACTS	12TH SIGNUP ACRES CONTRACTED	1ST - 12TH NUMBER OF CONTRACTS	1ST - 12TH ACRES CONTRACTED
NEW JERSEY	2	62	30	723
NEW MEXICO	3	506	1,518	483,181
NEW YORK	99	3,640	1,729	64,498
NORTH CAROLINA	256	5,243	6,497	151,008
NORTH DAKOTA	119	10,581	18,520	3,180,569
OHIO	1,150	52,590	8,542	377,089
OKLAHOMA	113	9,305	8,688	1,192,504
OREGON	31	2,754	2,012	530,766
PENNSYLVANIA	79	2,939	2,649	101,078
PUERTO RICO	0	0	8	455
SOUTH CAROLINA	193	5,952	6,737	278,071
SOUTH DAKOTA	147	20,660	12,476	2,120,255
TENNESSEE	414	17,388	10,829	475,605
TEXAS	729	103,504	19,762	4,150,485
UTAH	7	407	997	233,978
VERMONT	0	0	10	193
VIRGINIA	108	2,333	3,186	79,556
WASHINGTON	256	29,909	4,483	1,047,029
WEST VIRGINIA	1	8	35	618
WISCONSIN	1,528	54,241	20,790	746,586
WYOMING	2	201	796	257,280

CRP 1ST THROUGH 12TH SIGNUP

	NUMBER OF CONTRACTS	ACRES CON- TRACTED
TOTAL	375,202	36,423,395
ALABAMA	10,113	573,190
ALASKA	40	25,348
ARKANSAS	3,418	260,006

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GEORGIA	14,718	706,459
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IDAHO	3,907	877,059
ILLINOIS	19,685	811,926
INDIANA	11,539	462,649
IOWA	35,666	2,224,818
KANSAS	31,020	2,937,863
KENTUCKY	8,102	451,317
LOUISIANA	1,785	146,571
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MARYLAND	707	20,392
MASSACHUSETTS	5	32
MICHIGAN	8,039	332,853
MINNESOTA	27,222	1,928,932
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MISSOURI	22,804	1,726,835
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NEW JERSEY	30	723
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NEW YORK	1,729	64,498
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WEST VIRGINIA	35	618
WISCONSIN	20,790	746,586
WYOMING	796	257,280

Release No. 0837.93
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USDA CALLS FOR PUBLIC COMMENT ON REPORT RELEASE TIMES

WASHINGTON, Sept. 30--The U.S. Department of Agriculture seeks public comment on alternative release times during the day for market sensitive, regularly scheduled, reports.

USDA is examining alternative release times to determine if the current release times best serve the interests of U.S. agriculture and the food and fiber system.

The alternative release times being examined are 8:30 a.m. Eastern Time (ET), 12:00 noon ET and 3:00 p.m. ET. USDA also is evaluating whether release times should apply to all market sensitive reports or only to selected reports now prepared and released under tight security.

USDA is seeking public comment because commodity markets and the speed of communication have changed greatly since USDA established the 3:00 p.m. report time for those reports prepared and released under secure, "lockup" conditions.

Advanced communication technology ties together commodity markets in many countries and makes market information instantly available worldwide. USDA is conducting this review to ensure that its reports best serve the interests of the U.S. agricultural community.

A full discussion appears in a notice published in the September 30 edition of the Federal Register, on page 51050.

Written comments are invited. Comments must be received on or before November 1. Send comments to the Economics Agencies Freedom of Information Officer, USDA/EMS, Room 4310 South Building, 14th and Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250. Comments received will be available at this location for public inspection and copying.



Release No. 0839.93
Bruce Merkle (202) 720-8206

CCC INTEREST RATE FOR OCTOBER LOWERED TO 3-3/8 PERCENT

WASHINGTON, Oct. 1 -- Commodity loans distributed in October by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Commodity Credit Corporation will carry a 3-3/8 percent interest rate, according to Randy Weber, acting executive vice president of the CCC.

The 3-3/8 percent interest rate is down from September's 3-1/2 percent and reflects the interest rate charged CCC by the U.S. Treasury in October.

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Release No. 0840.93
Steve Kinsella (202) 720-4623

USDA ANNOUNCES 1994 FEED GRAINS ACREAGE REDUCTION PROGRAM PERCENTAGES

WASHINGTON, Sept. 30 -- Secretary of Agriculture Mike Espy today announced a 1994 acreage reduction program (ARP) of 5 percent for corn, and 0 percent for grain sorghum, barley and oats.

The 1994-crop acreage reduction percentages are down from the 1993 levels of 10 percent for corn and 5 percent for grain sorghum.

Corn stocks entering the 1994/95 marketing year are expected to be about 810 million bushels lower than the previous year's levels because of reduced yields and lower harvested acreage largely due to recent extensive flooding in the Midwest.

Grain sorghum 1994/95 marketing year beginning stocks are expected to be down 84 million bushels from the previous year's level.

Lowering the ARP levels is necessary to ensure adequate feed grain supplies during the 1994/95 marketing year, Espy said.

This year's ARP levels for barley and oats are unchanged from 1993. The oats ARP level is set at 0 percent by law. Malting barley producers will not be exempt from compliance with the barley ARP requirement in order to be eligible for price support benefits and program payments.

The 1994 feed grain acreage reduction percentages must be announced by Sept. 30. Any final revision must be made no later than Nov. 15.

Other 1994-crop provisions will be announced later.

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Release No. 0841.93
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USDA ANNOUNCES FISCAL 1994 SOAP/COAP ALLOCATIONS

WASHINGTON, Oct. 1 -- Under Secretary of Agriculture Eugene Moos today announced the fiscal year 1994 allocations under the Sunflowerseed and Cottonseed Oil Assistance Programs (SOAP/COAP) to encourage sales of 365,000 metric tons of sunflowerseed oil and 205,000 metric tons of cottonseed oil.

Ten countries/regions are targeted under the U.S. Department of Agriculture's fiscal year 1994 sunflowerseed program and eight countries under the cottonseed program. The new allocations will remain in effect through fiscal year 1994, which ends Sept. 30, 1994.

Fiscal 1994 SOAP/COAP allocations are listed below in metric tons:

<u>Country</u>	<u>SOAP</u>	<u>COAP</u>
Algeria	70,000	
Dominican Republic	10,000	10,000
Egypt	40,000	60,000
El Salvador	15,000	40,000
Former Soviet Union	40,000	
Guatemala	30,000	15,000
Mexico	100,000	10,000
Nicaragua		10,000
Slovenia	10,000	
Turkey	30,000	40,000
Venezuela	20,000	20,000
Totals	365,000	205,000

Sales of oils will be made to buyers in these countries through normal commercial channels at competitive world prices. The export sales will be facilitated with cash bonus payments. The subsidy will enable U.S. exporters to compete at commercial prices in these markets.

SOAP/COAP invitations for each of the countries/regions will be issued in the near future.

For more information call Randy Baxter, (202) 720-5540, or L.T. McElvain, (202) 720-6211.

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Release No. 0842.93
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ELIGIBLE 1992 SORGHUM PRODUCERS DUE FARM PROGRAM PAYMENTS

WASHINGTON, Oct. 1--The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Commodity Credit Corporation today announced increased deficiency payments, known as Findley payments, will be made for 1992-crop sorghum under the 1992 feed grains price support and production adjustment program. Sorghum producers will receive about \$10 million in increased deficiency and 0/92 payments. No Findley payments will be made for 1992-crop corn, barley, oats and wheat.

Randy Weber, acting CCC executive vice president, said Findley payments are made when the basic support level for a commodity is reduced to maintain domestic and export markets for that commodity. However, these payments are made only when the 12-month national weighted average market price is less than the price support level before it was reduced.

The national average market prices per bushel received by producers from September 1992 through August 1993 were \$2.07 for corn and \$1.89 for sorghum (\$3.38 per hundredweight). The basic price support levels for these commodities were \$2.01 and \$1.91 per bushel, respectively.

The national average market prices received by producers from June 1992 through May 1993 for wheat, barley and oats were \$3.24, \$2.04 and \$1.32 per bushel, respectively. The basic price support levels for these commodities were \$2.58, \$1.64 and \$1.03 per bushel, respectively.

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Program Announcements-

Releases No. 0832.93

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USDA ANNOUNCES PREVAILING WORLD MARKET RICE PRICES, MARKETING CERTIFICATE RATES
 WASHINGTON, Sept 28--Acting Under Secretary of Agriculture Eugene Moos today announced the prevailing world market prices of milled rice, loan rate basis, as follows:

--long grain whole kernels:	6.69 cents per pound
--medium grain whole kernels:	6.06 cents per pound
--short grain whole kernels:	5.98 cents per pound
--broken kernels:	3.35 cents per pound

Based upon these milled rice world market prices, loan deficiency payment (LDP) rates, gains from repaying price support loans at the world market price, and marketing certificate rates are:

	Loan Gain and LDP Rate	Marketing Certificate Rate
\$/Cwt.....	
--for long grain:	\$2.03	\$0.49
--for medium grain:	\$1.84	\$0.47
--for short grain:	\$1.84	\$0.42

These announced prices and rates are effective today at 3 p.m. EDT. The next scheduled price announcement will be made Oct. 5 at 3 p.m. EDT.



Release No. 0836.93

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USDA ANNOUNCES PREVAILING WORLD MARKET PRICE AND USER MARKETING CERTIFICATE PAYMENT RATE FOR UPLAND COTTON

WASHINGTON, Sept. 30--Jeff Wells, acting executive vice president of USDA's Commodity Credit Corporation, today announced the prevailing world market price, adjusted to U.S. quality and location (adjusted world price or AWP), for Strict Low Middling (SLM) 1-1/16 inch (leaf grade 4, micronaire 3.5-3.6 and 4.3-4.9, strength 24-25 grams per tex) upland cotton (base quality), and the coarse count adjustment (CCA) in effect from 5:00 p.m. today through 3:59 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 7. The user marketing certificate payment rate announced today is in effect from 12:01 a.m. Friday, Oct. 1, through midnight Thursday, Oct. 7.

The Agricultural Act of 1949, as amended, provides that the AWP may be further adjusted if: (a) the AWP is less than 115 percent of the current crop year loan rate for base quality upland cotton, and (b) the Friday through Thursday average price quotation for the lowest-priced U.S. growth as quoted for Middling (M) 1-3/32 inch cotton, C.I.F. northern Europe (USNE price) exceeds the Northern Europe (NE) price. The maximum allowable adjustment is the difference between the USNE price and the NE price.

A further adjustment to this week's calculated AWP may be made in accordance with this provision. The calculated AWP is 80 percent of the 1993 upland cotton base quality loan rate, and the USNE price exceeds the NE price by 2.74 cents per pound. Following are the relevant calculations:

I.	Calculated AWP	41.68 cents per pound
	1993 Base Loan Rate	52.35 cents per pound
	AWP as a Percent of Loan Rate	80
II.	USNE Price	58.05 cents per pound
	NE Price	- 55.31 cents per pound
	Maximum Adjustment Allowed	2.74 cents per pound

Based on a consideration of the U.S. share of world exports, the current level of cotton export sales and cotton export shipments, and other relevant data, no further adjustment to this week's calculated AWP will be made.

This week's AWP and coarse count adjustment are determined as follows:

Adjusted World Price

NE Price	55.31
Adjustments:	
Avg. U.S. spot market location	11.82
SLM 1-1/16 inch cotton	1.50
Avg. U.S. location	0.31
Sum of Adjustments	- 13.63
Calculated AWP	41.68
Further AWP adjustment	- 0
ADJUSTED WORLD PRICE	41.68 cents/lb.

Coarse Count Adjustment

NE Price	55.31
NE Coarse Count Price	- 51.37
	3.94
Adjustment to SLM 1-1/32 inch cotton	- 3.20
COARSE COUNT ADJUSTMENT	0.74 cents/lb.

Because the AWP is below the 1991, 1992, and 1993 base quality loan rates of 50.77, 52.35, and 52.35 cents per pound, respectively, the loan repayment rate during this period is equal to the AWP, adjusted for the specific quality and location plus applicable interest and storage charges. The AWP will continue to be used to determine the value of upland cotton that is obtained in exchange for commodity certificates.

Because the AWP is below the 1993-crop loan rate, cash loan deficiency payments (LDPs) will be paid to eligible producers who agree to forgo obtaining a price support loan with respect to the 1993 crop. The payment rate is equal to the difference between the loan rate and the AWP. Producers are allowed to obtain an LDP on a bale-by-bale basis.

The USNE price has exceeded the NE price by more than 1.25 cents per pound for four consecutive weeks and the AWP has not exceeded 130 percent of the 1993 crop year base quality loan rate in any week of the 4-week period. As a result, the user marketing certificate payment rate is 1.49 cents per pound. This rate is applicable during the Friday through Thursday period for bales opened by domestic users and for cotton contracts entered into by exporters for delivery prior to Sept. 30, 1994. Relevant data are summarized below:

Week	For the Friday through Thursday Period Ending	USNE Price	NE Price cents/lb	User Marketing Certificate Payment Rate
1	Sept. 9, 1993	56.40	54.99	0
2	Sept. 16, 1993	58.10	55.42	0
3	Sept. 23, 1993	57.90	55.27	0
4	Sept. 30, 1993	58.05	55.31	1.49

Next week's AWP, CCA and user marketing certificate payment rate will be announced on Thursday, Oct. 7.

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